

The July 1, 2003 special board meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Spring-Ford Area School District was called to order at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Spring-Ford High School with the following in attendance:

- Region I: Raymond J. Rocchio, Jr.
- Region II: Martha Magee Block, Janet A. Stokes, and Robert A. Weber
- Region III: Ed Cummins, John S. Grispon, and Richard Schroeder
- Presiding Officer: Michael V. Masciandaro

Mr. Masciandaro announced that as vice president, he was serving as presiding officer in Mr. Pettit's absence. He also announced that there was an executive session on

I. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

II. PRESENTATION

- A. Ed Murray of Dolphin & Bradbury presented information regarding a debt-incurring resolution consisting of a \$24 million bond.

III. FINANCE

Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve Items A and B. Mrs. Stokes seconded it. It was approved 6-2 with Mr. Grispon and Mr. Weber voting no.

- A. The board approved of **Resolution 2003-12**, authorizing the issuance of the District's General Obligation Bonds in the amount of \$24,000,000 for purposes of financing the balance of the elementary school project for an 850 student school on Sunset Road in Limerick Township, the renovation of the Middle School, any other capital improvement projects, and the costs of issuance of the Bonds and authorizing the proper officers of the Board to take such actions as may be necessary for the District to issue such Bonds.
- B. The board approved of **Resolution 2003-13**, requesting the exclusion of subsidized non-electoral debt for the purpose of calculating the net outstanding non-electoral debt of the School District.

Mr. Masciandaro called a ten-minute recess for paperwork involving the bonds to be signed. The board reconvened at 8 p.m.

IV. PRESENTATION

- A. Karl Derrah, AIA, senior design architect with the DLR Group, to present schematics and design progress of the new Winnie's Elementary School with site plan, floor plan, and elevations. Mr. Grispon asked how long it would take to complete construction: 20 months replied Mr. Derrah. Mrs. Stokes asked about walking paths. Mr. Derrah said walking paths were in the discussion phase. Mrs. Block asked if an additional door could be installed from the media center to the outside. Yes, said Mr. Derrah. Mrs. Block asked about the overhangs and whether the building could be adapted to other uses in the future such as office space or assisted living. Mr. Masciandaro requested that the design be posted on the website. Dr. Coale directed Mr. Spohn to do so. Dr. Coale announced that the Act 34 hearing would be scheduled soon.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item A. Mr. Rocchio seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

- A. The board approved of the June 9th committee of the whole minutes.

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Item B. Mr. Rocchio seconded it. It was approved 7-0-1 with Mrs. Block abstaining.

- B. The board approved of the June 16th work session minutes.

IV. PERSONNEL

Mrs. Block made a motion to approve Items A-K. Mr. Schroeder seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

- A. The board approved of the **resignation**, with regret of **Rebecca Steiner**. Ms. Steiner has accepted a teaching position at Brooke Elementary School, effective August 19, 2003.
- B. The board approved of **Lyndi Puleo**, English Teacher at the Middle School for a **Childrearing Leave of Absence** for the remainder of the 2003/2004 school year, effective tentatively October 30, 2003.
- C. The board approved of the revision and correction to the compensation for **Daniel Mountz**, as a Temporary Professional Employee, for the Elementary position teaching Grade 4 at the

Upper Providence Elementary School. Compensation should have read \$35,500 (instead of \$35,000 on page 30 of June 23, 2003 agenda), BS, Step 1, with benefits as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective August 20, 2003.

- D. The board approved of the revision and correction to the compensation for **Shelley Glossner**, Royersford, PA, as a Professional Employee, for the Science position at the Middle School replacing Barry Shafer who retired. Compensation should have read \$37,000 (instead of \$37,400 on page 29 of June 23, 2003 agenda), BS, Step 4, with benefits as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective August 20, 2003.
- E. The board approved of the following **Professional Staff**:
1. **Julie A. Cardamone**, Royersford, PA, as a Temporary Professional Employee, for the English position at the High School replacing Lynne McWilliams who retired. Ms. Cardamone is a graduate of West Chester University with certification in English. Ms. Cardamone is currently a Long Term Substitute with the district. Compensation will be set at \$36,000, BS, Step 2, with benefits as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective August 20, 2003.
 2. **Shannon K. Dallahan**, Maple Shade, NJ, as a Temporary Professional Employee, for the Guidance Counselor position at the Intermediate School replacing C. Michele Poruban who resigned. Ms. Dallahan is a graduate of Villanova University with certification as an Elementary Guidance Counselor. Ms. Dallahan is currently a Long Term Substitute with the district. Compensation will be set at \$39,400, MS, Step 2, with benefits as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective August 20, 2003.
 3. **Ashley C. Heilman**, Harleysville, PA, as a Temporary Professional Employee, for the Business, Computers & Technology position at the High School replacing Tom Link who retired. Ms. Heilman is a graduate of Gwynedd-Mercy College with certification in Business, Computers & Technology. Compensation will be set at \$35,500, BS, Step 1, with benefits as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective August 20, 2003.
 4. **Sue M. Shin**, Washington Crossing, PA, as a Temporary Professional Employee, for the new Elementary position teaching Grade 3 at the Upper Providence Elementary School.

Ms. Shin is a graduate of Temple University with certification in Elementary Education and Early Childhood and also Mentally and Physically Handicapped. Compensation will be set at \$35,500, BS, Step 1, as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective August 20, 2003.

- F. The board approved of **Judy Dinofrio**, Schwenksville, PA, as the Certified School Nurse for the Extended School Year 2003 program. She will work 4 hours per day for a total of 104 hours. Compensation will be set at \$29.00 per hour for a cost of \$3016.00 plus benefits (FICA & Retirement) at a cost of \$172.21 for a total cost not to exceed \$3188.21. Funding through IDEA funds.
- G. The board approved of the following **support staff employees**:
1. **Nina Calamaro**, Royersford, PA, to work with a special education student for the Learning Support Class –ESY program for the summer 2003. Compensation will be set at \$12.35 an hour for 143 hours for a cost of \$1766 plus benefits (FICA & Retirement) at a cost of \$100.84 for a total cost of \$1866.84. Ms. Calamaro will be working at Brooke Elementary School replacing Helen Johnstone who will now be working at the ESY program held at Camp Joy, Schwenksville, PA. Funding is from the IDEA funds.
 2. **Helen Johnstone**, Royersford, PA, to work with a special education student for the Special ESY program held at Camp Joy, Schwenksville, PA. Compensation will be set at \$12.35 an hour, 6 hours per day, for 34 days for a total of 204 hours for a cost of \$2519.40 plus benefits (FICA & Retirement) at a cost of \$143.86 for a total cost of \$2663.26 from June 30, 2003 to August 15, 2003. Funding is from the IDEA funds.
 3. **Teresa R. Hudson**, Royersford, PA, for the Instructional Assistant for Technology position at Brooke Elementary School replacing Rebecca Steiner who accepted a teaching position at Brooke Elementary School. Compensation will be set at \$14.70 an hour, plus \$.25 an hour for degree for a total of \$14.95 an hour pending receipt of transcript, as per the Assistants' plan, effective August 20, 2003.
 4. **Betsy A. Mastrocola**, Limerick, PA, for the support staff position as a Clerical Assistant at Upper Providence Elementary School replacing Nancy Jann who passed away. Compensation will be set at \$11.00 an hour plus \$1.00 an hour for degree for a total of \$12.00 an hour, pending receipt of transcript from

Shippensburg University, with benefits as per the Secretarial Plan, effective July 14, 2003.

5. **Donna Militano**, Douglassville, PA, for the new position of Instructional Assistant for Technology position at the Upper Providence Elementary School. Compensation will be set at \$14.70 an hour with benefits as per the Assistants' plan, effective August 20, 2003.
 6. **Martin Seibert**, Pottstown, PA, for the Instructional Assistant for Technology position at the Intermediate School replacing Joann Sibley who accepted a teaching position at the Intermediate School. Mr. Seibert is currently a per diem substitute with the district. Compensation will be set at \$14.70 an hour with benefits as per the Assistants' plan, effective August 20, 2003.
- K. The board approved of the independent contract for **Main Line Rehabilitation, Assoc. Inc.**, Exton, PA for the 2003/2004 school year to provide 70 hours of cognitive therapy for a special education student as per the student's IEP and 4 hours of training for the teacher and assistants working with this student for a total 74 hours. The cost of the program is \$125.00 an hour with a total cost not to exceed \$9250.00. The contract will be paid from funds budgeted in the 2003/2004 Special Education Budget/General Fund.
- L. The board approved of the independent contract(s) for **Spring-Ford Family Practice**, Royersford, PA to review student files in the special education ACCESS program and complete necessary medical practitioner authorization documentation in connection with student IEP files for the 2003/2004 school year. The cost will be \$10.00 per IEP not to exceed \$5,000. The PA ACCESS Program will reimburse funding.
- M. The board approved of the following **extracurricular/supplemental contract(s)**:
- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------|--|-----------|
| 1. | John E. Eckstine, Jr. | SH Band Director | \$6,498 A |
| 2. | Daniel DeLong | SH Marching Band Percussion Design Planner | \$4,259 C |
| 3. | Laura Detwiler-Craft | SH Head Boys' Tennis Coach | \$3,668 D |
| 4. | Laura Detwiler-Craft | SH Head Girls' Tennis Coach | \$3,668 D |
| 5. | Craig Kehl | 9 th Grade Boys' Basketball Coach | \$3,668 D |
| 6. | Danielle Stauffer | SH Asst. Boys'/Girls' Track | \$2,477 F |
| 7. | Ken Ridgeway | 7/8 Gr. Asst. Baseball Coach | \$1,715 H |
| 8. | Melinda Klunk | Magazine Drive | \$ 312 M |

Dr. Coale had Item H deleted from the agenda since it had been approved at the June board meeting.

- H. *Administration recommends approval to employ a Summer Library Assistant at Spring City Elementary. Compensation will be set at \$12.35 an hour for 56 hours for a cost of \$691.60 plus benefits (FICA and Retirement) at a cost of \$39.50 for a total cost of \$731.10. -- DELETED*

V. OTHER FINANCE

There was a discussion of the merits of having more sophisticated band uniforms at the high school level to give the Middle School students something to look forward to and to allow the High School students to have a more mature look. The board complemented Mrs. Jennings for selecting a uniform with old gold and blue and that complemented the high school uniform. Mrs. Block made a motion to approve Item A. Mr. Schroeder seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

- A. The board approved of seeking bids for the purchase of “**Band Uniforms**” (2003/2004) for the Middle School with the cost not to exceed \$37,000.

Mr. Schroeder made a motion to approve Item B. Mrs. Block seconded it. It was approved 6-1-1 with Mr. Weber voting no and Mrs. Stokes abstaining.

- B. The board approved of the Winnies site for a Sewer Extension Agreement and a Sewer Plan Review Escrow Agreement with Limerick Township Municipal Authority. The cost for the administration fee is \$1,000 and the Sewer Plan Review Escrow Agreement deposit is \$2,000.

PROPERTY

Mr. Grispon commented that it appears that the district is getting a 35% reimbursement but the district is really not (in Item C). Mr. Anspach confirmed this statement and added that the actual number was 23.45 (page H3 in the budget document). Mr. Weber made a motion to approve Items A-E. Mrs. Block seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

- A. The board approved of **Phillips Electric** to complete the replacement of Middle School transformer that was blown due to the storm of 6/20/03 under emergency service. A form will be submitted to the Department of Education for a cost estimate of

\$14,000.00. Temporary transformer is in-place until a new one is ordered.

- B. The board approved of the materials for PlanCon J: Project Accounting based on Final Cost, which had been reviewed and approved by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Education for the Spring-Ford High School. The new temporary reimbursable percent is 35.14% for the General Obligation Bond Series of 1999 in the amount of \$30 million.
- C. The board approved of the materials for PlanCon J: Project Accounting based on Final Cost for Oaks Elementary addition and alterations, which had been reviewed by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Education. The new temporary reimbursement percent is 35.14% for the General Obligation Bond Series of 1999 in the amount of \$30 million.
- D. The board approved of the materials for PlanCon J: Project Accounting based on Final Cost for Limerick Elementary additions and alterations, which had been reviewed by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Education. The new temporary reimbursement percent is 35.14% for the General Obligation Bond Series of 1999 in the amount of \$30 million.
- E. The board approved of a change order to Power and Communications, Inc., wiring contractor for the new Intermediate School, not to exceed \$7500 for the Installation of fiber and copper backbone to a new Intermediate Distribution Frame (IDF) in the east wiring of the new Intermediate School. Funding is from the Construction Fund.

CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

Mrs. Block made a motion to approve Item A. Mr. Grispon seconded it. It was approved 8-0.

The board approved of the following individuals for attendance at the following conferences/workshops:

CODE: 580 Account: Conference/Training, registration, food, and accommodations

ROYERSFORD

- A. **David Willauer**, Principal, to attend *“Service Learning and Character Education Conference”* at Penn State University on

Wednesday, July 9, 2003 and Thursday, July 10, 2003. This conference will focus on character education and service-learning which will be used to support the schools pro-social program and their efforts with character education. The cost of the conference is \$479.00 from the 580 account.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs. Block said she was opposed to the board expelling a student without having a hearing even if parents and students waive that right and that she would vote against it. Board members discussed the necessity of having a hearing when parents or students waive that right. Mrs. Block said that she didn't hear whether the parents in these cases were represented by legal counsel. Mr. Grispon said this was a matter of policy and should be handled by the Policy Committee. Mrs. Stokes made a motion to approve Items A-D. Mr. Grispon seconded it. It was approved 7-1 with Mrs. Block voting no.

- A. The board approved that student number 10203 be expelled from the Spring-Ford Area School District in accordance with the conditions presented by the Superintendent.
- B. The board approved that student number 20203 be expelled from the Spring-Ford Area School District in accordance with the conditions presented by the Superintendent.
- C. The board approved that student number 30203 be expelled from the Spring-Ford Area School District in accordance with the conditions presented by the Superintendent.
- D. The board approved that student number 40203 be expelled from the Spring-Ford Area School District in accordance with the conditions presented by the Superintendent.

Motion E defeated – Formalization of expulsion process

Mr. Schroeder made a motion to formalize the expulsion process until a policy is developed effective immediately. Mrs. Block seconded it. Mr. Grispon said it was not an agenda item and should be publicized first. The board hotly debated whether hearings should be held whether or not parents and children decide to waive their right to do so. Mr. Weber asked about costs of the stenographer and numbers of cases that can be heard in one evening, which is dependent on schedules of administrators, parents, and police. Mrs. Block said stenographers charge a \$100 appearance fee and that the board only orders a transcript if a parent who doesn't show up files a legal action. The board voted 3-5 to defeat the motion with Mr. Rocchio, Mrs. Stokes, Mr. Grispon, Mr. Cummins, and Mr. Masciandaro voting no.

Motion F defeated – Written notice given to all parents

Mrs. Block made a motion that in the case of all potential expulsion cases that parents receive a written notice 1) that expulsion will be reported to any other school the child would attend and 2) if they waive the hearing but do not withdraw, they can avoid the hearing but will have the child's alternative education paid for by the school district. Mr. Schroeder seconded it. He added that the administration was seeking direction from the board. Mrs. Block said parents in an expulsion case did not know that the notice of expulsion would follow the child to whatever school the child would attend. She said a family may have the impression that the school district is on their side when possibly an attorney should have represented them. Mr. Rocchio, Mr. Weber, and Mrs. Stokes said that they wanted input from the solicitor before acting on this issue. Dr. Coale responded that she wanted to assemble written guidelines for parents. The board voted this motion down 1-7 with Mrs. Block being the only yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS**Motion G approved – New roof at Brooke**

The board discussed the air conditioning system, which needs to be replaced as well as the roof. Dr. Coale referred to leaks in the roof and that the warranty has expired. The board asked Mr. Cooper to get RFQs from engineers and to have it ready for the August Property Committee meeting. Mr. Schroeder made a motion to move forward with roof replacement and engineering studies to facilitate the project at Brooke Elementary. Mrs. Block seconded it. The board voted 7-0 to approve the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Diane Dodson, Spring City president of Home and School Association Said that Spring City Elementary School is losing 30% of its teachers and that teachers and administrators are not giving her the same explanation.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Stokes made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Grispon seconded it. The board adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Magee Block
Board Secretary

Pat Dillon
Recording Clerk